

## ABSTRACT

A paper jam detector for use in connection with a substrate interleaver of an automated food processing line is provided. At least one jam detector sensor is located along at least one of the feed path from the substrate feed mechanism and a second conveyor that receives product from a first conveyor, and is adapted to detect when a substrate passes from the substrate feed mechanism onto the second conveyor. A controller is connected to the at least one jam detector sensor and to the substrate feed mechanism such that upon detection of an unsuccessful substrate feed, the controller turns off the substrate feed mechanism to prevent feeding of more substrates into the jam area, which creates a hard jam and longer down time for the production line for clearing the jam. A method for detecting jams is also provided.